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Billingham Urban District Council.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

AND

REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector,

FOR 1925.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

R. M. CHAMNEY, PRINTER & STATIONER, YARM LANE.

1926.

BILLINGHAM URBAN DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending 31st December, 1925.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Report on the Health & Vital Statistics of your District for the year 1925.

The Minister of Health has issued instructions for a Quinquennial Survey of each district to be made this year. This is impossible in the case of your district as it was formed only 2¾ years ago.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	3,036
Population (1925)	9,187
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,552
Rateable Value	£112,334
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£432

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following are extracts from the Vital Statistics.

		Males	Females	Total	Birth Rate
Births,	Legitimate	115	85	200	21·9.
Do.	Illegitimate	1	1	2	
		116	86	202	
					Death Rate
Deaths		52	31	83	9·0.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth.

From Sepsis	1
From other causes	1

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1000 Births.

Legitimate	84·1
Illegitimate	4·9

Deaths from Measles (at all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	1
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	0

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There has been no excessive nor unusual mortality during the year. Scarlet Fever and Chicken pox were very prevalent but caused no deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females
Whooping Cough		1
Influenza		2
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	2	2
Other Tubercular Diseases	3	
Cancer, Malignant disease	5	2
Diabetes	1	
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	3	3
Heart Disease	4	1
Arteris-scelerosis	1	
Bronchitis	4	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	2
Other respiratory diseases	1	
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodinium	2	
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	2
Puerperal Sepsis		1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition		1
Congenital Debility and Malformation	1	3
Suicide	1	
Other Deaths from Violence	4	1
Other Defined Diseases	14	8
Totals	52	31

AGES AT DEATH.

Under 1 year	1 to 2 "	2 to 5 "	5 to 15 "	15 to 25 "	25 to 45 "	45 to 65 "	65 to 70 "	Over 70 "
17	2	1	3	3	16	19	7	15

The case rate of these Diseases per 1000 living compared with the rate for England and Wales were as follows.

	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas
England and Wales	0·14	2·36	1·23	0·07	0·06	0·39
Billingham Urban District	0·98	6·00	0·43	1·00	0·32	0·54

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

DISEASE.	Total cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Small Pox	9	9	
Scarlet Fever	56	52	
Diphtheria	4	4	
Erysipelas	5		
Pneumonia	10		6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	1	
Puerperal Fever	3		
Tuberculosis	12		7
Chicken Pox	105		

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Period	NEW CASES.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0						1		
1	1	1					1	
5	1		1					
10			2		1			
15	2						1	
20							1	
25			1			1		
35		1			1			
45		1						
55	1							
65 & up.								
Total	5	3	4	—	2	2	3	—

Population. The Census population in 1921 was 7,921 and the estimated population in 1925 was 9,187. It is on this estimate that the Birth and Death rates are based.

The estimated population of the District when formed in 1923 was 8,684. Therefore the present estimate shows an increase of over 500.

Births. 202 Births were registered during the year, 116 Males and 86 Females. This gives a Birth Rate of 21·9.

The rate for England and Wales for the same period was 18.3.

The rate of the district for the two previous years was for 1924, 23·5 and for 1923, 29·0.

Deaths. 66 Deaths were registered in the District, but to these must be added 21 inward transfers of people belonging to the District who had died elsewhere, and be deducted 4 outward transfers of people belonging to other districts who had died within this area.

This leaves a nett total of 83 deaths giving a Death Rate of 9·0.

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 12·2.

The Death Rate for the two previous years was for 1924, 11·2 and for 1923, 7·3

Infantile Deaths. 17 Deaths were registered of children under one year of age giving an Infantile Death Rate of 84·1 per 1000 Births. The rate for England and Wales is 75·0.

The rate for 1924 was 92·4 and for 1923 it was 42·0.

Small Pox. 9 Cases were notified in the early part of the year. Only 2 were in any way severe and none of them were serious. They were all removed to Hospital and there were no Deaths.

All contacts were Vaccinated where possible, some being followed into other districts, and the schools were disinfected.

Scarlet Fever. This disease was prevalent during the Spring and cases occurred at intervals during the rest of the year.

56 cases were notified and 52 were removed to Hospital. There were no deaths from this disease.

Diphtheria. 4 Cases were notified and all were treated in Hospital where they made a good recovery.

Chicken Pox. This disease was very prevalent, 105 cases being notified.

Enquiries as to the Vaccinal condition of all cases were made, and in unvaccinated cases efforts were made to have the vaccination done.

Isolation Hospitals. Arrangements are still in operation with Stockton Corporation for removal into their Small-Pox and Fever Hospitals of cases from this area, and 66 cases were removed during the year.

Nursing. A branch of the Durham County Nursing Association is established in the district, a nurse is provided and her work has been well carried out.

Two Child Welfare Clinics are held in the district one at Haverton Hill and one at Billingham.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	21
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(I) By the Local Authority	14
(II) By other bodies or persons	6

1. Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	69
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	69

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 1

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 55

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 22

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 8

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners .... Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ..... Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 680

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a)	By owners	220
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	311

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1)	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	1
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS. J. KIRK.

Table X.—**Birth-rate, Death-rate.** and **Analysis** of **Mortality** during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

—	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population									Rate per 1,000 Births		Percentage of Total Deaths.		
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales	18·3	12·2	0·01	0·00	0·13	0·03	0·15	0·07	0·23	0·47	8·4	75	92·1	6·9	1·0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18·8	12·2	0·01	0·00	0·17	0·03	0·18	0·09	0·30	0·43	10·8	79	92·1	7·3	0·6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted population 20,000—50,000).....	18·3	11·2	0·01	0·00	0·15	0·02	0·14	0·06	0·31	0·38	7·6	74	93·0	5·9	1·1
London	18·0	11·7	0·01	0·00	0·08	0·02	0·19	0·11	0·23	0·46	10·6	67	91.1	8·9	0·0
Billingham	21·9	9.0	—	—	—	—	—	0·10	0·21	0·54	—	89	90·3	8·4	1·2

Sanitary Inspector's Report for the year ending 31st December, 1925.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Council Offices,
Haverton Hill-on-Tees.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Second Annual Report, giving as far as possible a summary of works carried out under the Public Health Acts and the various Acts connected with Public Health work,

HOUSING.

21 houses were erected and occupied during the year 14 of which were built by the Council under their first scheme, 90 houses were in course of erection on Dec. 31st, 1925 viz. :- Councils Schemes 82. Private Enterprise (Subsidy Houses) 4. Private Enterprise (Non-subsidy Houses) 4.

During the year inspection has been made of 69 houses which are considered to require attention.

Good progress has been made with the conversion of privy middens to water closets 225 being converted during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES

Defective drains renewed	1
Blocked Drains opened out and cleansed	27
New Dust Bins provided in lieu of defective bins	393
Privies converted into proper water closets	225
New W.C's provided other than conversions	23
Sink Waste Pipes repaired or renewed	2
Accummulation of Manure removed	2
Dumping of Fish Offal	1
Stagnant Ponds	2
Choked Eaves spouting and defective	2
Defective roofs	5
Overcrowding	4
Dampness	1
W.C. in filthy condition	1
Defective Privy Midden	1

HOUSING ACTS.

Houses Inspected	69
Revisits made	73

DEFECTS RECORDED.

Defective Floors	35
Defective Ceilings	14
Defective Eaves spouting and fall pipes	51
Choked Eaves spouting and fall pipes	22
Defective Roofs	24
Defective structures	21
Defective Windows	15
Additional Lighting required	13
Defective Doors	17
Defective Fireplaces	7
Defective Staircases	5
Dampness	8
Defective Window Cords	25
Dangerous Chimneys	6
Walls requiring pointing	5
Defective plaster on walls	9
Defective yard pavings	18
Defective privy middens	2
Defective and insufficient drains	4
Absence of sink and water supply in house	21
Insufficient gulleys	24
Defective sink waste pipes	5

In connection with the above works under the Public Health Acts & Housing Acts, the following notices have been served—

INFORMAL NOTICES ..... 67.
FORMAL NOTICES ..... 688.

The following works have been carried out after the service of notices under the Housing Acts.

Windows repaired	6
New Windows provided	3
Ceilings repaired	4
Floors renewed or repaired	6
Structures rebuilt or repaired	9
Fireplaces repaired	3
Doors renewed or repaired	8
Privies repaired	1
Roofs repaired	13
Yard surfaces relaid	6
Sink and Water supply provided	13
Gulley provided and drain extended	14
Eaves spouting cleansed	13
Eaves, Spouting and fall pipes renewed	28
New Waste Pipes provided in lieu of defective	3
Sash Cords provided to windows	9
Plaster on walls renewed	3
Chimneys rebuilt	1
Walls pointed and made good	2

Infectious Diseases. Inquiries have been made into 56 cases of Scarlet Fever, 4 cases or Diphtheria, 9 cases of Smallpox, and several cases of Chicken Pox during the year.

The houses were thoroughly disinfected with formalin following the removal of patient to Hospital.

The schools have been disinfected during the year, and the streets have been sprayed with disinfectant several times.

HOUSES DISINFECTED .... 71.

Slaughter Houses. There are only three slaughter houses in the district. Inspection has been made at intervals during slaughtering, and in connection therewith 425 lbs of meat, 3 livers and 1 lung has been condemned as unfit for the food of man.

Scavenging. The dustbins and privies are emptied weekly, the only improvement desired in this respect is the conversion of all privies to water closets at Port Clarence, Sweet Hills, and Haverton Hill and the provision of dustbins in lieu of fixed ashpits. This work will be carried out when the sewers are made sufficient for that purpose.

During the year the Council have taken on lease an old clay pit comprising of 14 acres, as a tip for all household refuse.

The number of types of conveniences in the district are as follows :-

	1923.	1924.	1925.
Privy Middens	707	575	378
Pan or pail closets	123	113	85
Fixed dry ashpits	18	18	18
Water closets	761	903	1151

Cowsheds. There are 10 cowkeepers in the district and 17 cowsheds in which 120 milch cows are kept. The majority of the milk is sold in the district.

The cowsheds have been inspected twice during the year and notices have been served to carry out repairs to paving, lighting, ventilation and drainage.

In connection with the notices the outside works have been carried out and the inside paving will be completed when the cows are kept out during 1926.

I am, Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

J. H. HILL, Sanitary Inspector.